

coolness and courage upon that occasion - I beg that you will take a proper opportunity to communicate the Resolution to the other officers and crew of the "Sabine"

I am Sir very Respectfully
Your obt. Servant
A. H. Bradford

For Resolution see Executive Record of the date of May 9th 1852

State of Maryland
Executive Chamber
Annapolis May 9th 1852

Hon. Edward Bates
Attorney General to
Sir:

It is represented to me that large numbers of slaves owned in Maryland are daily making their way into the District of Columbia from the neighboring Counties of our State - It is producing of course great anxiety and complaint in our community, which is greatly increased within the last few days from information received that the Government has forbidden the Marshal of the District to execute any warrant for the arrest of these slaves, upon the ground as it is suggested that the fugitive slave law is not applicable to the District of Columbia - If this is a proper construction of the act it certainly conflicts with what has been the general opinion of our people upon the subject - And their confidence in the remedial action of this law, has done more than any thing else to quiet their apprehensions growing out of the effect of the recent emancipation act in offering an apparent asylum to such fugitives - There are two classes of persons who are just now excited upon the subject of the late District law - the one made up of the politicians that have really no interest in the matter and are determined to agitate it simply for partisan effect, and the other of persons who are in pursuit of no object but their property and seek only to have the laws of the land honestly executed - It is hardly necessary for me to say that it is in behalf of the latter alone I deem it my duty to address you.

They believe that the fugitive slave law of 1850 applies to the District and that it ought to be executed, and all they ask is that it may be executed until the Judicial Tribunals where the question properly rests, shall determine that the District is not within its operation.

If the Authorities of the District or the Administration entertain a doubt of the applicability of the Act to that Community, our slave owners only desire the